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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/08/2016
TAGS: <u>PARM KNNP PREL IR EU AORC AM</u>

SUBJECT: ARMENIA: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: IAEA REPORTS IRAN

TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL

REF: A) STATE 19516 B) YEREVAN 64

Classified By: Amb. John M. Evans for reasons 1.4 (b, d).

(C) The Ambassador delivered reftel demarche on the IAEA decision to report Iran to the UN Security Council to Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister Arman Kirakossian February 18. Kirakossian had recently returned from Tehran where he participated, as part of a high-level Armenian delegation led by Presidential Chief of Staff Artashes Tumanyan, in regularly scheduled meetings of the Iran-Armenia Inter-Governmental Commission. Kirakossian acknowledged that Iran now has a critical opportunity to take the steps called for in the resolution, but told the Ambassador that "a level of extremism" in the country will "make it difficult." Kirakossian said that Tumanyan, during a press conference at the close of the commission meetings in Tehran, told reporters that Armenia "hopes this problem will be solved in a peaceful and diplomatic manner."